

HARDBOILED vs BLOODSUCKERS

# Dark Seduction

A GREG TRAVIS FILM

"DARK SEDUCTION" STARRING TYLER HORN VICTORIA HUGHEY CATHERINE SIMMONS STACEY TRAVIS JULIE BROWN JOE ALASKEY ROBERT SCHIMMEL GREG TRAVIS  
MUSIC BY ROBERT REIDER ART DIRECTOR DON WHITE III STYLIST MONICA DI VENTI DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY STEVEN BISHART  
WRITTEN AND PRODUCED BY STEVEN BISHART & GREG TRAVIS DIRECTED BY GREG TRAVIS



**DARK SEDUCTION** is a fun tongue-in-cheek film noir about a down and out detective who has a one night stand with a beautiful vampire, who turns out to be the main suspect in a Hollywood killing spree.

*Starring:*

Tyler Horn, Victoria Hughey, Catherine Simmons

*Director:* Greg Travis

*Producers:* Steven Bishart & Greg Travis

*Director of Photography:* Steven Bishart

Shot on 16mm Black and White | 81min | Not Rated



The film was originally shot in Los Angeles, CA in the summer of 1984 and was never finished due to a long list of mishaps, creative battles, and lost footage. Then lo and behold it all surfaced. Then in 2014 everything came together and the film was finally completed.

Featuring a classic film noir detective, two beautiful Vampire Vixens and a supporting cast of hilarious characters; this lost cult classic, thirty years in the making, has the potential to become one of the great cult films of all time.

When it was created, it was ahead of its time,  
but its time is *now*.

## DARK SEDUCTION | How It Began

In 1984, Actor/Filmmaker Greg Travis and Producer Steve Bishart had a dark dream. It involved two beautiful lesbian vampires, and one hard-headed private detective in a twisted black and white backdrop of Los Angeles. This was an L.A. still mired in 40's noir but slashed open by the 80's New Wave/Punk/Goth scene that pumped out style so fast that they bled into each other. With the fervor of inspired madmen and the determination of a starving Rottweiler, they pressganged a crew of artists as crazy as they were and began putting their fantasy to celluloid. They called this nineteen eighty-noir nightmare, **Dark Seduction**...

## DARK SEDUCTION | Synopsis

Hollywood 1944 and 1984: The creeps are crawling out of the woodwork like a bad dream and lone gumshoe, Private Eye Dic Jones is trying to make the long cold crawl out of a warm whiskey bottle. In this dark black and white underworld there are two Vampires on the loose. Vera and Serina, two super fine, rocked out, glammed up, new waved, lesbian bloodsuckers, hell bent on a tinsel-town drinking spree.



It's a full moon, and Ray, a Hollywood sitcom writer and Miko, his Asian girlfriend, are having a strife-filled evening. Fuelled by cocaine and vodka, a frustrated Ray can't understand why neither he nor Miko can enjoy his success, but that won't matter in a minute because they are about to get a visit from Serina and Vera. Miko gets sucked dry as a hammered Ray stumbles in on the vamps. In a brutal knockdown drag-out fight, Vera loses a fang.



Speeding through the night in their getaway car, Vera chastises Serina, upset at getting her fang knocked out by a lucky punch. Their squabble reveals a fragile and immature relationship. The argument provides a catalyst for Vera to exit the vehicle and wander off into the neon jungle of Hollywood. And whom does she hitch a ride with? None other than Dic Jones.

Each is vulnerable to the other's ephemeral charm. The inevitable happens and they find themselves trysting in a cheap hotel. It is there, in the smoky reflection of a post coital haze, Vera tries to put the bite on Jones, but to her surprise and chagrin, Jones shrugs her off like a buzzy mosquito!

Heartbroken, alcoholic, Dic Jones sits in his Hollywood office overcome with depression. He can't seem to get over the loss of his girlfriend Laura when square-jawed Sgt. Murdock of the L.A.P.D. Detectives calls Jones in on the Hollywood couple slaying case. It's Ray and Miko's apartment. In typical police fashion, they ask a private eye to help them solve a big, high profile murder case. Jones finds a broken fang sticking out of the wall. Meanwhile, little one-fanged Vera has come home to big bad mama Serina with her tail between her

legs. The two make up in the sweetest way possible. They decide to go on an even more expansive blood-drinking spree.

Dic Jones attempts to unravel the mystery of the tooth's origins. His sleuthing leads him to Fast Eddie, an unlucky pool shark; The Rat, a ex-con and ex-dentist with a bad attitude, who tells him the tooth could belong to a vampire –“it's a fifty-fifty shot,” and then the street-wise street hood, The King. Jones pays a visit to the Fatman who is now living with his ex-wife Laura. Jones believes she still cares and is determined to get her back.

On the other side of town, sleaze ball Sid Gold is “auditioning” two young, pretty girls for roles in his “Vampire” movie. Except Gold isn't really a film producer, he just puts ads in the paper to get girls to come over to his house so he can attempt to seduce them! Well, justice is sometimes ironic because the two young lovelies that turned up to the casting call are not really actresses. It's Serina and Vera! Hilarity in a bloody vein ensues!



Jones is frustrated and in pain. That bite on his neck seems to be getting worse. Also, Murdock keeps pressing him for progress on the case. To top it all off, he isn't having much luck running down a one-fanged vampire, especially since his investigation keeps taking him into scuzzy bars. Being in a scuzzy bar makes Jones want to drink.

Serina and Vera pay a slinky visit to one of their regular acquaintances, the Fortuneteller. The Fortuneteller also happens to be a dealer in supernatural artifacts. She sells replacement fangs for one-toothed vampires. After ordering Vera a new fang, the Fortuneteller reads Serina's future. The cards don't look so good...

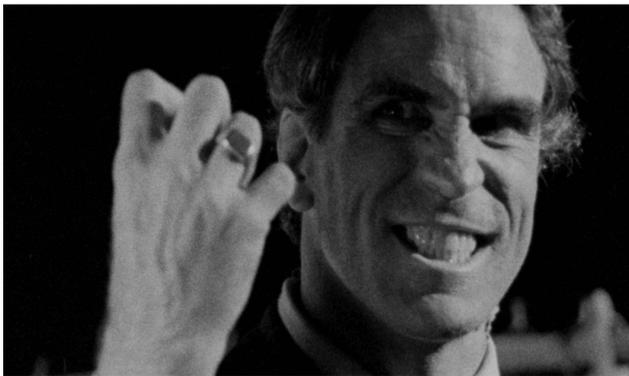


Jones isn't feeling too well. He's been beat up by thugs, the hangover he's been nursing since the first act is wearing on him and now the bite on his neck has turned into an open, running boil resembling an active volcano. There's only one thing to do... Jones must rely on an ancient Chinese cure to get this vampire's boil off his neck, and no better place to get an ancient Chinese cure except from an ancient Chinese; Old Chan in Chinatown will help him. Except maybe Jones has confused Old Chan the alchemist for Old Chan the launderer. No matter. It's a good excuse for a big kung-Fu fight.

Jones gets back to his office. All the while the damned, persistent full moon just hangs up there in the sky. That bite on his neck doesn't seem to be getting any better, even after Chan's treatment. In fact, Jones just flat out goes ahead and turns into a vampire! With big 'ol fangs and everything! Which is a really bad time for Murdock to come for a visit.

Acting like a real PI, Jones hits the streets and under the omnipresent full moon, tracks his pair of bloodsuckers to a little known, though wildly popular, nightspot that caters to clientele of the lesbian persuasion... The *Pussywillow* Club!

At the Pussywillow, Serina and Vera have already entered the premises and are in the act of drinking every patron to death. Jones bursts into the joint just as Vera is licking the last bit of viscera from her lips. Spotting Jones, Serina grabs Vera and they hightail it outta there with Jones in hot pursuit. Even so, Vera can't help but cast a forlorn look at Jones. This does not escape Serina's attention, and once outside the club, hurls the smaller, voluptuous vampire away commanding her to run home, but with the obvious intent of "taking care of her later."



Turning on Jones, Serina takes him on like a freight locomotive crashing into a brick wall. It's a clash of titans as Serina's superhuman strength thrashes away at Jones' uncanny thick skull and hide, but wait, he's now a vampire too! Jones takes out his gun and shoots her! After dispatching of Serina, Jones continues his pursuit of Vera back to their hide out, a creepy castle with a skeleton draped on the stairwell.

When Jones walks into the vampire lovers' playroom of horrors, he finds Vera crouching on the floor, a look of combined bewilderment and desire on her pretty one fanged mouth. They must make love! Just as Jones is just about to, Serina drives a stake through Jones' heart! \*Jones only shot her, he didn't stake her, you see.)

Jones wakes up in a hospital... A curvaceous nurse explains that he's had a blood transfusion, but that he's going to be all right. Then Murdock shows up and tells him he's solved the case. Yes, Murdock, whom we guess did not get all his blood sucked out. Now get this... Laura shows up! She's got a suitcase full of the Fatman's money and she wants to go to Mexico with Jones! Can you believe it? You better. Because that's what goes down in the wild and fantastic world of **DARK SEDUCTION**.



## DARK SEDUCTION | Cast



Dic Jones  
Vera  
Serina  
Frenchie  
Miko  
Ray  
Murdock  
Fast Eddie  
The Rat  
The King

**Tyler Horn  
Victoria Daniel  
Catherine Simmons  
Gaith Talhouni  
Hisako Mura  
Greg Travis  
Ken Gibble  
Don White  
Robert Schimmel  
King Ricardo King**

Laura  
Fatman  
Sid Gold  
Joey  
Natasha  
Tammy  
The Cat  
Moon Goddess

**Stacey Travis  
Joe Alaskey  
Mark Goldstein  
Greg Suddeth  
Ann Russel  
Julie Brown  
Shari Famous  
Yana Niavana**

Gardener  
Butler  
Fatman's Cook  
Fatman's Thug #1  
Fatman's Thug #2  
Fatman's Thug #3  
Bartender  
Fast Eddie's Girl

**Danny Mora  
Arvid Holmberg  
Ron Brown  
Billy Jaye  
Tom Sawyer  
James Baker  
Steven J. Williams  
Susanna di Leo**

Waitress  
Old Chan  
Old Chan's Daughter  
Kung Fu Man  
Chinatown Street Woman  
Death Punk  
Punk Ninja  
Guitar Guy  
Pussywillow Queen  
Pussywillow Dancer

**Monica di Venti  
Henri Hirose  
Cathy Wong  
Alain Huynh  
Helen Arbogast  
Louis Roth  
Rick Overton  
Steve Bishart  
Cindy Heidel  
Melissa Hellman**

Hospital Nurse  
Dream Girl  
Dream Creep  
Hollywood Hooker  
Street Bum  
Jesus Freak  
Extras:

**Tracey Conway  
Del Whitley  
Richard Swearingen  
Chris America  
Steven Kirk  
Guy Pohlman  
Bob Montoya  
Jacqueline Aghajany  
Karla Erhart**

# DARK SEDUCTION | Crew

**Directed by**  
Greg Travis

**Produced by**  
Steven Bishart & Greg Travis

**Screenplay by**  
Greg Travis & Steven Bishart

**Story by**  
Steven Bishart



**"I AM THE CAT"**  
Written & Performed by  
Shari Famous

**"DARK SEDUCTION"**  
Written & Performed by  
Steve Altman  
Vocal by Jeanie Cunningham

**Executive Producers**  
Greg Travis  
Steven Bishart  
Tom Sawyer  
Elaine Travis

**Associate Producers**  
Tim J. Studley  
Susanna di Leo  
**Richard Stein**

First Assistant Director  
Second Assistant Director  
Assistant to the Director  
First Assistant Camera  
Second Unit Camera

Film Editors

Digital Editor  
Assistant Editors

Music Composed/Conducted  
Musicians

Sound Editing & Design  
Sound & Music Mixing  
Dialogue Editing  
Gaffer  
Key Grip  
Best Boy Grip  
Grips

Dolly Grip  
Technical Consultant  
Sound Recordists

Boom Operator  
Production Photography  
Negative Cutter

Special Effects

**Director of Photography by**  
Steven Bishart

**Music Score Composed by**  
Robert Reider

**Art Direction by**  
Don White III

**Make Up & Hair Stylist**  
Monica di Venti

**Susanna di Leo**  
**Seth Schultz**  
**Louis Roth**  
**Tim J. Studley**  
**Mark Trembath**  
**Chris Leplus**

**Guy Pohlman**  
**Greg Travis**  
**Steven Bishart**  
**Michael Washington**  
**Sim Sadler**  
**Susan Massi**  
**Dave Ramser**  
**Mike Ewalt**  
**Cosmo Klieno**  
**Robert Reider**  
**Robert Reider**  
**Andy Fuhr**  
**Jes Burgess**  
**Cam Sinclair**  
**Krys Mach**  
**Robert Higgins**  
**Robert Reider**  
**Markus Innocenti**  
**Mark Trembath**  
**Tim J. Studley**  
**Dave Mead**  
**Wayne Nasby**  
**Jim Baker**  
**Jim Stimpson**  
**Jay Garret**  
**Tom Sitter**  
**Brian Bidder**  
**Dana Plummer**  
**Hunter Kilpatrick**  
**Rick Wilson**  
**Don White III**  
**Dave Pappmeier**  
**Chris Weber**  
**Chris Dawson**

## DARK SEDUCTION | Back Story

In the summer of '84, the cast and crew feverishly shot with a five-man crew on a 15-day schedule working out of a small office on Hollywood Boulevard surrounded by bikers and the homeless. It was hard to tell where the film ended and the production began. An additional two scenes were shot six months later and the filming phase was complete.

When the shooting phase of the film was over, the post-production wreck left in its wake a vortex dying in a storm. Travis and Bishart had no money to hire a real editor, so they tried to tackle that task with a sense of impending doom. A year later, a workable cut still had not been found. Their production office was closed and the editing was moved to Bishart's home office. After another year, the work was transferred to ¾ inch tape and various versions of the film were made in search of the perfect cut. Creative disagreements, technical snafus, lack of funding and distractions from the next career step were beginning to dilute the ability to finish **Dark Seduction**. Unable to find the cut, both men returned to their other jobs and **Dark Seduction** was temporarily shelved.

The real question for Greg Travis was what kind of a movie had he made? Part film noir, part horror movie, part comedy and all homage... **Dark Seduction** was all of those things. Travis was faced with putting together what was now beginning to look like a collage of short scenes concocted under the umbrella of high concept. It went into storage, a kind of post-apocalyptic hibernation, peaking out of its cryogenic chamber every century or so to check and see if the world was habitable once again.

Travis' vision, like all dreams to the dreamer upon awakening, lost cohesion in the stark light of day. Ownership disputes followed. Now and again, an attempt to resurrect **Dark Seduction** would come along, and then disappear. At one point, the negative was lost when an editor who had possession of it suffered a stroke and went incommunicado for a year, but like Dic Jones, Travis persevered. The digital revolution revitalized **Dark Seduction** just like an infusion of fresh blood reanimates a vampire! A high quality restoration of the original footage now made it possible to re-edit. Time, experience and perhaps a little wisdom had sharpened Travis' dark dream into an actionable narrative that could now be told. The style of the 40's and the insanity of the 80's were once again married, this time into a workable relationship, and all the frenetic, quirky energy of the participants, from grip to actor, all of their blood, sweat and tears shone through in every single frame! All who took part were once darkly seduced by Travis' obsession. They've already had their **Dark Seduction**. Now it's time for yours!

